

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) An A tire comprising an elastomeric composition usable for the manufacture of tyres, based on a diene elastomer, an inorganic filler as reinforcing filler and a coupling agent comprising a polysilylated organosilicon compound which is at least bifunctional and ean be is grafted on to the elastomer by means of a sulphur group having a polythiosulphenamide function, of formula:

(I) 
$$\equiv Si - A - S_x - N R^1 R^2,$$

in which:

- A is a divalent bond group, whether straight-chain or branched, which makes it possible to join the polythiosulphenamide group to a first silicon atom of the organosilicon compound;
- x is an integer or fractional number of from 2 to 4;
- R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen, a monovalent hydrocarbon group or R<sup>2</sup>;
- $R^2$  represents the grouping:

$$-B - Si \equiv$$

in which:

- B is a divalent bond group, whether straight-chain or branched;
- Si represents a second silicon atom of the organosilicon compound.

- 2. (Currently Amended) The eomposition tire according to claim 1, wherein  $R^1$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyls,  $C_5$ - $C_{10}$  cycloalkyls,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$  aryls,  $(C_6$ - $C_{18})$ aryl- $(C_1$ - $C_8)$ alkyls, and  $R^2$ .
- 3. (Currently Amended) The composition tire according to claim 2, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, hexyl, benzyl, cyclohexyl, phenyl, and R<sup>2</sup>.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The <u>composition-tire</u> according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>2</sup> represents the grouping:

$$-B-SiR^{3}_{(3-a)}(OR^{4})_{a}$$

in which:

- R<sup>3</sup> represents a monovalent hydrocarbon group;
- R<sup>4</sup> represents hydrogen or a monovalent hydrocarbon group, which may be identical to or different from R<sup>3</sup>, and
  - a is an integer equal to 1, 2 or 3.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The composition-tire according to claim 4, wherein the radicals  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are selected from the group consisting of  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyls,  $C_5$ - $C_{10}$  cycloalkyls, and phenyl.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The eomposition-tire according to claim 5, wherein the radicals R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are selected from among the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyls.

- 7. (Currently Amended) The eomposition-tire according to claim 1, wherein A and B, which may be identical or different, represent a hydrocarbon group comprising from 1 to 18 carbon atoms and optionally, one or more heteroatoms.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The eomposition tire according to claim 7, wherein A and B, which may be identical or different, are selected from the group consisting of  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$  alkylenes and  $C_6$ - $C_{12}$  arylenes.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The eomposition-tire according to claim 8, wherein the sulfur group satisfies the formula:

(II) 
$$\equiv \text{Si-Z-S}_x\text{-NR}^1\text{-Z-Si} \equiv$$
, wherein the groupings Z, which may be identical or different, represent a  $C_1\text{-}C_8$  alkylene.

10. (Currently Amended) The <u>composition-tire</u> according to claim 8, wherein the sulfur group satisfies the formula: .

(III) 
$$\equiv \text{Si-Z-S}_x\text{-NR}^1\text{-S}_y\text{-Z-Si} \equiv$$
,

wherein the groupings Z, which may be identical or different, represent a  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkylene, and y, which may be identical to or different from x, is an integer or fractional number from 2 to 4.

11. (Currently Amended) The eomposition tire according to claim 1, wherein the diene elastomer is selected from the group consisting of polybutadienes, synthetic polyisoprenes, natural rubber, butadiene copolymers, isoprene copolymers and mixtures of these elastomers.

- 12. (Currently Amended) The composition tire according to claim 1, wherein said composition comprises between 10 and 200 phr (parts by weight per hundred parts of elastomer) of reinforcing inorganic filler.
- 13. (Currently Amended) The <u>composition-tire</u> according to claim 1, wherein the quantity of coupling agent is between 1 and 20 phr.
- 14. (Currently Amended) The eomposition-tire according to claim 1, wherein the organosilicon compound is a silane-polythiosulfenamide of formula:

(IV) 
$$(R^6O)_bR^5_{(3-b)}Si-A-S_x-NR^1-B-SiR^3_{(3-a)}(OR^4)_a,$$

in which:

R<sup>5</sup> represents a monovalent hydrocarbon group;

R<sup>6</sup> represents hydrogen or a monovalent hydrocarbon group, which may be identical to or different from R<sup>5</sup>;

b is an integer equal to 1, 2 or 3; and

 $R^5$ ,  $R^6$  and b possibly being, respectively, identical to or different from  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and a.

- 15. (Currently Amended) The composition tire according to claim 14, wherein the silane satisfies the formula:
  - (V)  $(R^6O)_bR^5_{(3-b)}Si-Z-S_x-NR^1-Z-SiR^3_{(3-a)}(OR^4)_a$ ,

in which the groupings Z, which may be identical or different, represent a  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkylene, the radicals  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  representing a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl.

- 16. (Currently Amended) The eomposition-tire according to claim 15, wherein Z is propylene, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are selected from among the group consisting of methyl and ethyl.
- 17. (Currently Amended) The eomposition-tire according to claim 14, wherein the silane satisfies the symmetrical formula:

(VII) 
$$[(R^4O)_aR^3_{(3-a)}Si-Z-S_x-]_2NR^1_.$$

- 18. (Currently Amended) The eomposition-tire according to claim 17, wherein Z is propylene, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are selected from among the group consisting of methyl and ethyl.
- 19. (Currently Amended) The eomposition <u>tire</u> according to claim 15, wherein x is <u>an integer</u> or fractional number of from 2 to 3.
- 20. (Currently Amended) The eomposition-tire according to claim 19, wherein x is equal to 2.
- 21. (Currently Amended) The composition tire according to claim 14, wherein the silane satisfies the formula:
- (VI)  $(R^6O)_bR^5{}_{(3-b)}Si-Z-S_x-NR^1-S_y-Z-SiR^3{}_{(3-a)}(OR^4)_a$  in which the groupings Z, which may be identical or different, represent a  $C_1-C_4$  alkylene, the radicals  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  represent a  $C_1-C_3$  alkyl, and y, which may be identical to or different from x, is an integer or fractional number of from 2 to 4.

22. (Currently Amended) The eomposition-tire according to claim 21, wherein Z

is propylene, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are selected from among the group consisting of methyl and

ethyl.

23. (Currently Amended) The composition-tire according to claim 21, wherein x

and y are integers or fractional numbers of from 2 to 3.

24. (Currently Amended) The eomposition-tire according to claim 23, wherein x

and y are equal to 2.

25. (Currently Amended) The composition tire according to claim 14, wherein R<sup>1</sup>

is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, hexyl,

benzyl, cyclohexyl and phenyl.

26. (Currently Amended) The composition tire according to claim 1, wherein the

reinforcing inorganic filler is silica.

Claims 27 through 41 (Cancelled)

42. (New) The tire according to claim 1 having a tread, wherein said elastomeric

composition is present in the tread of the tire.

- 43. (New) The tire according to claim 9 having a tread, wherein said elastomeric composition is present in the tread of the tire.
- 44. (New) The tire according to claim 10 having a tread, wherein said elastomeric composition is present in the tread of the tire.
- 45. (New) The tire according to claim 14 having a tread, wherein said elastomeric composition is present in the tread of the tire.
- 46. (New) The tire according to claim 15 having a tread, wherein said elastomeric composition is present in the tread of the tire.
- 47. (New) The tire according to claim 17 having a tread, wherein said elastomeric composition is present in the tread of the tire.
- 48. (New) The tire according to claim 21 having a tread, wherein said elastomeric composition is present in the tread of the tire.